



Subvisual cirrus visible on the horizon, as seen from the WB-57F. Photo compliments of Brian Barnett.

General Information

Flight date – 30 JAN 04

Flight description – Flight #7, Pre-AVE mission

Flight Duration – 4.7 hours.

Crew – Bill Ehrenstrom and Brian Barnett

Flight Log

Before Taxi	15:51:20
Take off	16 :01 :40
Landing	20 :43

Gear extension/retractions

Gear Up	16 :01
Gear Down	20:43

Weather Observations

- No visible clouds were penetrated until on descent. We skimmed the edges of a dense, wet cumulus cloud at 20:31.

Flight Profile

- Started toward southern point just past equator. Climbed up to and reached FL 460 at 16:23. OAT = 203.6 K.
- Started climb to FL 580 at 17:10. We arrived at FL 580 at 17:27. OAT = 192.2 K.
- Started climb to max altitude of FL 610 at 17:58. We peaked at that altitude and made a spiraling descent 18:04. A small contrail was noted at ~ FL 470.
- We arrived at FL 350 at 18:16. We made a spiraling climb back to FL 460 and arrived at 18:25.
- We started a climb to FL 580 at 19:08 and arrived at 19:21.
- A max altitude climb was made at 19:41. We peaked at FL 615, and started to descend at 19:44.

Instrument Failures/Notes/Times

- After takeoff, the CAPS display was erroneous, so I reset as follows: CAPS OFF – 16:12:16, CAPS ON – 16:13:00, steady fail, CAPS OFF – 16:16:00, CAPS ON – 16:16:30, steady fail for a bit and then the light went out at 16:19 and the display looked normal.
- Nominal particle counts were seen on the departure, but then there were no counts at altitude or on approach to land.
- VIPS failed immediately at start-up. It was recycled five times, and stayed failed the entire flight. I have the recycle times if you need them.